From: jc.rodriguez@law360.com Sent: 4/6/2012 4:45:42 PM

To: "Cathy Milbourn/DC/USEPA/US@EPA" <milbourn.cathy@epa.gov>; "Enesta Jones/DC/USEPA/US@EPA"

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CC:

Subject: natural gas drilling/water wells report

Hello, my name is Juan Carlos Rodriguez and I'm a reporter at Law360. I'm trying to match the AP story below, so I'd like to get my hands on the report that is mentioned so I can write my own article.

Sorry for the late in the day nature of this email, but I just saw the story. If you can let me know about getting the report, I'd sure appreciate it.

Thanks, Juan Carlos AP story:

Testing at 20 more water wells in a northeastern Pennsylvania community at the center of a debate over the safety of natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale shows no dangerous levels of contamination, according to a report issued Friday by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The EPA had already tested 11 wells in Dimock, showing the presence of sodium, methane, chromium or bacteria in six of the wells before the results of the latest round of testing.

Three of the newly tested wells showed methane while one showed barium well above the EPA s maximum level, but a treatment system installed in the well is removing the substance, an EPA spokesman said.

Featured in the documentary Gasland, the Susquehanna County village of Dimock has been at the center of a fierce debate over drilling, in particular the process of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. The process involves injecting a mixture of water and chemicals deep under ground to free trapped natural gas so it can be brought to the surface. State environmental regulators previously determined that Houston-based <u>Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.</u> contaminated the aquifer underneath homes along Carter Road in Dimock with explosive levels of methane gas, although they later determined the company had met its obligation to provide safe drinking water to residents.

The EPA is still providing drinking water to three homes where prior tests showed contamination. A second round of test is under way, regulators said.

A group of Dimock residents suing Cabot assert their water is also polluted with drilling chemicals, while others say that the water is clean and the plaintiffs are exaggerating problems with their wells to help their lawsuit.

A Cabot spokesman did not immediately return an email seeking comment on the EPA s findings.

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